- 1. A fuel-cell system, especially a drive system of a motor vehicle, having a reformer unit (18) for producing hydrogen from a raw material, especially a liquid raw material (28) in order to operate a downstream fuel-cell unit (10); an oxidation device (34) for converting carbon monoxide into carbon dioxide being located between reformer unit (18) and fuel-cell unit (10); characterized in that a water-injection device (26) is provided at the oxidation device (34), the water-injection device injecting water into the oxidation device.
- 2. The fuel-cell system as recited in Claim 1, characterized in that the reformer unit (18) has a mixer (20) for the raw material (28) and an oxygen-containing substance (30), especially water and/or air.
- 3. The fuel-cell system as recited in Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that a two-stage compressor (49) is provided, which feeds compressed air to a process gas (38), between oxidation device (34) and fuel-cell unit (10); and/or supplies compressed air to a cathode (14) of the fuel-cell unit (10).
- 4. The fuel-cell system as recited in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a water separation device (40,62,68), in particular a condenser, is provided in an exhaust-gas stream (66) from a cathode (14) of the fuel-cell unit (10), and/or in an exhaust-gas stream (60) from an anode (12) of the fuel-cell unit (10), and/or in a cleaned-gas stream (38) from the oxidation unit (34); the water separation device separating the water contained in the corresponding gas (38,60,66), and supplying it to a water-storage device (30) upstream from the autothermal reformer unit (18).

- 5. The fuel-cell system as recited in Claim 4, characterized in that a separate water circulation loop (72) is provided, which cools at least one of the water separation devices (40,62,68), the fuel-cell unit (10,16), the air (48) supplied to a cathode (14) of the fuel-cell unit (10), and/or the air supplied to the reformer unit (18,20).
- 6. The fuel-cell system as recited in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a catalytic burner (82) is provided, which combusts exhaust gas (60) from an anode (12) of the fuel-cell unit (10), and directs the corresponding waste heat through a heat exchanger (22), to the reformer unit (18).
- 7. The fuel-cell system as recited in Claim 6, characterized in that the catalytic burner (82) is connected to a supply tank (28) for the raw material.
- 8. The fuel-cell system as recited in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that an expander (94) is provided in an exhaust-gas stream (66) of a fuel-cell-unit (10) cathode (14), and a compressor (96), particularly a two-stage compressor (50), is provided in a supply-air stream (98) of the fuel-cell unit (10); the expander and compressor being arranged on a common shaft (100).
- 9. The fuel-cell system as recited in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the raw material (28) is a hydrogen-containing substance, especially methanol or gasoline.
- 10. A process for generating electrical energy, using a fuel-cell system, especially for a drive system of a motor vehicle; hydrogen being produced from a raw material, in a reforming process, in order to operate a

fuel-cell unit; and carbon monoxide being oxidized to carbon dioxide after the reforming process, and in front of the fuel-cell unit, characterized in that water is injected during the oxidation of carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide.

- 11. The process as recited in Claim 10, characterized in that the water is injected in the form of a vapor or aerosol.
- 12. The process as recited in Claim 10 or 11, characterized in that compressed air is fed to a process gas, between the carbon-monoxide oxidation and the fuel-cell unit, and/or supplied to a cathode of the fuel-cell unit.
- 13. The process as recited in one of the Claims 10 through 12, characterized in that water is separated from a cathode-exhaust stream of the fuel-cell unit, and/or from an anode-exhaust stream of the fuel-cell unit, and is supplied to the reforming process.
- 14. The process as recited in one of the Claims 10 through 13, characterized in that an exhaust gas from an anode of the fuel-cell unit is burned, and the corresponding waste heat is fed to the reforming process.
- 15. The process as recited in one of the Claims 10 through 14, characterized in that raw material is burned, and the corresponding heat energy is fed to the reforming process.
- 16. The process as recited in one of the Claims 10 through 15, characterized in that a hydrogen-containing substance, especially methanol or gasoline, is used as a raw material.

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